Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a porous honeycomb structure, characterized by:

_____mixing and kneading at least an aggregate particle material composed of a ceramic and/or a metal, water, an organic binder, and a pore former that differs in composition from said organic binder to form clay, and adding colloidal particles to the ~~clay in proportion to the amount of aggregate particle material in the~~ clay;

_____forming the clay into a honeycomb shape having a plurality of cells constituting through channels of fluids;

_____drying the clay to obtain a honeycomb formed body;

_____calcining the honeycomb formed body to form a calcined body; and

_____thereafter firing the calcined body to obtain the porous honeycomb structure,

wherein the aggregate particle material is at least one component selected from a group consisting of a mullite, alumina, aluminum titanate, lithium aluminum silicate, silicon carbide, silicon nitride, and metal silicon, and said at least one component is 50% or more of the total mass of the aggregate particle material, where the total mass of the aggregate particle material is 100 parts by mass, and

_____wherein the colloidal particles are added to the clay in an amount of 0.1 to 10 parts by mass with respect to 100 parts by mass of the aggregate particle material.

~~wherein the clay contains 0.1 to 10 parts by mass of the colloidal particles for every 100 parts by mass of the aggregate particle material,~~

~~wherein the aggregate particle material contains at least one type of component selected from a group consisting of a mullite, alumina, aluminum titanate, lithium aluminum silicate, silicon carbide, silicon nitride, and metal silicon, and~~

~~wherein a total of the mass of the component is 50% or more of the total mass of the aggregate particle material.~~

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing the porous honeycomb structure according to claim 9, wherein the clay contains an alkali metal source corresponding to 0.01 to 10 parts by mass of an alkali metal in terms of the alkali metal with respect to 100 parts by mass of the aggregate particle material.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Withdrawn) A honeycomb formed body characterized by comprising: clay containing at least an aggregate particle material composed of a ceramic and/or a metal, water, an organic binder, a pore former that differs in composition from said organic binder, and colloidal particles, the clay being formed into a honeycomb shape having a plurality of cells constituting through channels of fluids.

14. (Withdrawn) The honeycomb formed body according to claim 13, wherein the clay contains 0.1 to 10 parts by mass of the colloidal particles with respect to 100 parts by mass of the aggregate particle material.

15. (Withdrawn) The honeycomb formed body according to claim 13, wherein the clay contains an alkali metal source corresponding to 0.01 to 10 parts by mass of an alkali metal in terms of the alkali metal with respect to 100 parts by mass of the aggregate particle material.

16. (Withdrawn) The honeycomb formed body according to claim 13, wherein the aggregate particle material contains at least one type of component selected from a group

consisting of a cordierite material, mullite, alumina, aluminum titanate, lithium aluminum silicate, silicon carbide, silicon nitride, and metal silicon, and a total of the mass of the component occupies 50% by mass or more with respect to a total mass of the aggregate particle material.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing the porous honeycomb structure according to claim 9, wherein said organic binder is selected from a group comprising hydroxypropoxyl methyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, carboxyl methyl cellulose, and polyvinyl alcohol.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing the porous honeycomb structure according to claim 9, wherein said pore former is selected from a group comprising graphite, flour, starch, phenol resin, polymethyl methacrylate, polyethylene, polyethylene terephthalate and microcapsules.